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April 9, 1980

Mr. Michael L. Couchot
Geologist
ARCO Coal Company
Resource Development Group
555 17th Street
P.O. Box 5300
Denver, Colorado 80217

new file
RE: Notice of Intent to Commence
Exploratory Drilling
Federal Lease U-020641
Federal Lease U-33454
Federal Lease U-8319
Carbon & Emery Counties
EXP/007/015 & EXP/015/040

CEP/015/007

Dear Mr. Couchot:

Thank you very much for your March 3, 1980 letter describing ARCO Coal Company's proposed exploratory drilling programs copied to us by the U.S. Geological Survey in Carbon and Emery Counties, Utah. The letter satisfies the notice requirements of Rule M-3(5) of the Utah Mined Land Reclamation Act of 1975, Title 40-8, Utah Code Annotated. All information in the letter relating to the location, size, or nature of the deposit will be held as confidential material by the Division until written permission to release the information is received.

The Division strongly urges that cementing be extended 50-foot above the top of the highest mineable coal seam. The remainder of the hole should be plugged with drilling mud described in the Division's guidelines. A surface plug should be placed on all the holes and should extend a minimum of 10-foot below the surface.

The Division requires no additional information at this time. However, a record of plugging procedures for each hole and federal overall reclamation procedures (ie., grading, stabilization procedures, seed mixtures, rates,

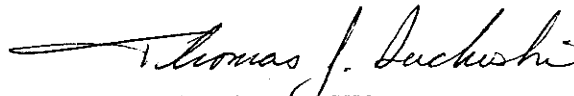
Mr. Michael L. Couchot
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methods, and times of seeding) is requested upon termination of operations. In addition, all information relating to water-bearing formations encountered in drilling and logging must be submitted to the Division in writing, and must give the hole location, and if possible, the depth of the water-bearing strata, the formation name, the rate of flow, and if known, the water quality.

Plugging guidelines are enclosed for your reference.

Thank you for your cooperation. When in the area a member of the Division staff will examine the site.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Thomas J. Suchoski".

THOMAS J. SUCHOSKI
ENGINEERING GEOLOGIST

TJS/te

Enclosure: Plugging Guidelines

cc: Jackson W. Moffett
Area Mining Supervisor
U.S. Geological Survey